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PATENT APPLICATION  
09/865,470

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frederick L. Ross  
Serial No.: 09/865,470  
Filed: May 24, 2001  
Group No.: 3627  
Examiner: Maria Teresa T. Thein  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: December 30, 2009  
Confirmation No.: 2938  
Title: *Local Returns of Remotely Purchased Merchandise with Return Code Validation*

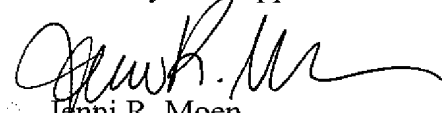
**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-20 and 29-39. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicant respectfully issues a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicant does not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicant

  
Jenni R. Moen  
Registration No. 52,038

Date: 3/22/10  
**CUSTOMER NO. 05073**